

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

ABSTRACT

EFS&T Department – Forest Clearance - Diversion of 0.74 ha of forest land in compartment no 16, 17, 22 of Lakkavaram RF, compartment no.18, 21 of Kansulauru RF, compartment no.188 of Kansuluru Extn-1 RF, compartment no.184 of Kansuluru Extn-III RF and compartment no.185 of Kalleru Extn RF for laying Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) between Mittavada-Chintur in Chintur forest Division in favour of M/s Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd., Visakhapatnam – In-principle (stage-I) approval accorded.

ENVIRONEMNT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (Section-II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Ms.No.57

Dated.28.08.2023
Read the following:-

- 1)Comprehensive guidelines issued by GoI, MoEF&CC, New Delhi in letter F.No.5-2/2017-FC, dated 28.03.2019.
- 2) From the PCCF & HoFF, Lr.Rc.No.EFS02-15026/7/2023/FCA-SEC/PPCF/FCA-3, dated 14.08.2023.

ORDER:

In the letter 2nd read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, has submitted a proposal for diversion of 0.74 ha of forest land in compartment no 16, 17, 22 of Lakkavaram RF, compartment no.18, 21 of Kansulauru RF, compartment no.188 of Kansuluru Extn-1 RF, compartment no.184 of Kansuluru Extn-III RF and compartment no.185 of Kalleru Extn RF for laying Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) between Mittavada-Chintur in Chintur forest Division in favour of M/s Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd., Visakhapatnam and requested to consider and process the proposal for issuance of in-principle/Stage-I approval under section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

2. After careful consideration of the proposal and in view of the powers delegated by the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, New Delhi in the letter 1st read above, Government hereby accord in-principle (Stage-I) approval under section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 0.74 ha of forest land in compartment no 16, 17, 22 of Lakkavaram RF, compartment no.18, 21 of Kansulauru RF, compartment no.188 of Kansuluru Extn-1 RF, compartment no.184 of Kansuluru Extn-III RF and compartment no.185 of Kalleru Extn RF for laying Optical Fiber Cable (OFC) between Mittavada-Chintur in Chintur forest Division in favour of M/s Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd., Visakhapatnam, subject to the following conditions:

- i. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
- ii. Demarcation of the proposed forest area shall be carried out by erecting 4 feet high cement concrete pillars duly numbered at an interval of 20 meters at the cost of User Agency;
- iii. The State Forest Department shall carryout plantation & maintenance of 100 numbers of seedlings in the nearby degraded forest area at the cost of the User Agency. Details of such DFL area i.e., Kml map, CA scheme may be submitted along with the compliance report and uploaded in the online application;
- iv. Full exemption of NPV is allowed in case of laying of underground OFC cable provided no felling of trees is involved and area proposed for diversion is outside of Protected Area as per the MoEF&CC guidelines. But in case an amount of the Net Present Value (NPV) of the diverted forest land if any, becoming due after revision of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of

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India in future, shall be charged by the State Forest Department from the user agency. The user agency shall furnish as undertaking to this effect;

- v. Additional amount of the Net Present Value(NPV) of the diverted forest land if any, becoming due after revision of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in future, shall be charged by the State Government from the user agency. The user agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect;
- vi. All the funds received from the user agency under the project shall be transferred/deposited to CAMPA fund only through e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>);
- vii. The maximum size of the trench shall not exceed 2.00 mtr depth and one meter in width. The forest land shall be restored to its original state after laying the same;
- viii. Laying of OFC work shall be undertaken between dawn to dusk only i.e. 6.00 AM to 6.00 PM;
- ix. **No tree felling shall be carried out in the forest area;**
- x. The muck generated in the earth cutting if any, will be disposed off at designated dumping sites and in no case the muck / debris will be disposed off in the forest areas;
- xi. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land;
- xii. Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the user agency to the labourer after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternative fuel.
- xiii. The forest land proposed for diversion shall under no circumstances be transferred or sublet to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the State Government;
- xiv. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the State Government;
- xv. Minimal disturbance should be ensured by creating labour camps outside the forest area as far as possible and it will be the responsibility of the UA to ensure that the labourers & staff engaged in execution of work do not destruct nearby flora & fauna;
- xvi. The total forest area to be utilized for the project shall not exceed **0.74 ha** and the forest area diverted shall not be used for any purpose other than those shown in the diversion proposal;
- xvii. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work;
- xviii. The User Agency shall submit RoFR certificate in the prescribed format before issue of Stage – II approval;
- xix. User agency and the State Forest Department shall ensure compliance to provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project;
- xx. Any other conditions that the Central Government or State Government may impose from time to time in the interest of afforestation, conservation and management of flora and fauna in the area, shall be complied by the user agency;
- xxi. Compliance report on the above conditions shall be processed and submitted through e - portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>);
- xxii. In the event of failure to comply with any of the above conditions the user agency is liable for penal action as provisions of rules / guidelines made under FCA , 1980;

3. After receipt of the compliance report on above mentioned conditions, the proposal will be considered for final approval. This in-principle approval shall be valid for a period of 5 years from the date of issue of this order. In the event of non-

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compliance of the above conditions, this in-principle approval shall automatically stand revoked after 5 years.

4. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, shall take further necessary action in the matter accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

NEERABH KUMAR PRASAD
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force,
Andhra Pradesh, Mangalagiri, Guntur.

Copy to:

The Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central),
Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change,
RO, Chennai (Sub-office at Vijayawada),
Green House Complex, Gopal Reddy Road,
Vijayawada-520010.

The Manager-RD, M/s Jio Digital Pvt., Ltd., 6th Floor, Vinaynagar Trade Centre, VIP
Road, CBM Compound, Visakhapatnam-530 003.
SF/SC.

// FORWARDED :: BY ORDER //


SECTION OFFICER